

# History Spoiler Breakdown

Absolutely. If we think of history as a long-running prestige TV series — let's call it *"Humanity: The Saga"* — then its twists, betrayals, surprise deaths, identity reveals, secret alliances, and shocking retcons would absolutely need spoiler tags in any discussion forum. Here's an exhaustive list of **major plot points, reveals, and spoilers** that would require content warnings in the hypothetical fandom wiki and message boards.

## Ancient World (S1–S5)

- **[S1E6] "Trojan Horse"**  
*Spoiler:* The Greeks weren't retreating — they were *inside* the horse.
- **[S2E2] "Pharaoh's Bloodline Twist"**  
*Spoiler:* Tutankhamun was the son of Akhenaten, not a random prince.
- **[S2E8] "Moses & the Red Sea"**  
*Spoiler:* The Hebrews escape Egypt via a sea parting miracle. Literal deus ex aqua.
- **[S3E1] "Persian Plot Armor Fails"**  
*Spoiler:* 300 Spartans actually die. Xerxes doesn't.
- **[S3E7] "Assassination of Julius Caesar"**  
*Spoiler:* *Et tu, Brute?* One of Caesar's closest allies stabs him.
- **[S4E2] "Jesus Twist"**  
*Spoiler:* That carpenter's son? Ends up being the messiah. Then dies. Then maybe comes back.
- **[S4E6] "Fall of Rome"**  
*Spoiler:* The Empire splits and one half limps on for another 1000 years.

## Medieval Era (S6–S10)

- **[S6E4] "Islamic Empire"**  
*Spoiler:* Muhammad unites Arabia *and* starts a religion that becomes a global force.
- **[S7E2] "Vikings in America??"**  
*Spoiler:* Leif Erikson touches down in Newfoundland centuries before Columbus.
- **[S7E8] "The Crusades"**  
*Spoiler:* No one wins. Everyone just keeps retaking Jerusalem.
- **[S8E3] "Magna Carta"**  
*Spoiler:* English kings have to share power. Feudal politics gets patch 1.0.
- **[S9E1] "Black Death"**  
*Spoiler:* Kills over 1/3 of Europe. Society barely holds together.
- **[S10E6] "Fall of Constantinople"**  
*Spoiler:* The Roman Empire officially ends... in 1453.

## Early Modern to Enlightenment (S11–S13)

- **[S11E4] "Columbus Was Lost"**  
*Spoiler:* Thought he found India. Nope. New continent DLC unlocked.
  - **[S11E7] "Aztecs Fall in One Season"**  
*Spoiler:* Hernán Cortés topples an empire with 500 guys and a prophecy.
  - **[S12E1] "Galileo Banned by the Church"**  
*Spoiler:* The Earth moves. The Church says: not canon (yet).
  - **[S12E9] "American Revolution"**  
*Spoiler:* Colonists break up with Britain over taxes and tea.
  - **[S13E3] "French Revolution Guillotine Arc"**  
*Spoiler:* They cut off Louis XVI's head. Then Robespierre's.
  - **[S13E7] "Napoleon Crowned Himself"**  
*Spoiler:* He grabs the crown mid-ceremony and declares himself emperor.
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## Industrial to Modern (S14–S17)

- **[S14E2] "Slavery Abolished... Sort Of"**  
*Spoiler:* Most of the world outlaws slavery in name. Practice? Takes way longer.
  - **[S14E5] "Civil War Family Drama"**  
*Spoiler:* U.S. fights itself. Brothers literally on opposite sides.
  - **[S14E8] "Germany Becomes a Thing"**  
*Spoiler:* Unification twist — Prussia was the main character all along.
  - **[S15E1] "Assassination of Archduke"**  
*Spoiler:* Starts WWI. Over 40 million deaths because a sandwich shop was closed.
  - **[S15E6] "Treaty of Versailles Cliffhanger"**  
*Spoiler:* Ends WWI. Seeds WWII.
  - **[S16E2] "Rise of Hitler"**  
*Spoiler:* He's not just a crank with a mustache — he takes over Germany.
  - **[S16E7] "Nukes Dropped"**  
*Spoiler:* Hiroshima and Nagasaki destroyed in minutes. War ends. Ethics questioned forever.
  - **[S17E1] "Holocaust Revealed"**  
*Spoiler:* Six million Jews killed. Nobody saw the full extent until the camps were liberated.
  - **[S17E5] "Israel Created"**  
*Spoiler:* New state formed in 1948. Conflicts start *immediately*.
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## Late 20th Century (S18–S20)

- **[S18E4] "Cold War Isn't Hot"**  
*Spoiler:* U.S. and USSR never actually fight directly.

- **[S18E6] "Moon Landing Twist"**  
*Spoiler:* The Americans get there first. In '69. Live TV.
- **[S18E9] "CIA Secret Ops Plotline"**  
*Spoiler:* Coups, assassinations, drug funding, etc. It's all real.
- **[S19E2] "Fall of the Berlin Wall"**  
*Spoiler:* Germany gets rebooted. Cold War basically ends.
- **[S19E7] "Internet Invented for Military Use"**  
*Spoiler:* Turns into memes, porn, and cryptocurrency.
- **[S20E1] "9/11 Attack"**  
*Spoiler:* Two planes crash into the Twin Towers. Everything changes overnight.
- **[S20E3] "Iraq WMD Plotline Fake"**  
*Spoiler:* There weren't any. Still went to war.

## **21st Century (S21–Now)**

- **[S21E4] "Global Financial Crash 2008"**  
*Spoiler:* Caused by banks, paid for by taxpayers.
- **[S21E6] "Arab Spring Twist Ending"**  
*Spoiler:* Starts with hope. Ends with coups, civil wars, and crackdowns.
- **[S21E9] "COVID-19 Pandemic Arc"**  
*Spoiler:* Virus halts the world. Conspiracies outpace vaccines.
- **[S21E11] "Capitol Riot Plot Twist"**  
*Spoiler:* U.S. democracy attacked by its own citizens. Live-streamed.
- **[S21E13] "AI Enters the Chat"**  
*Spoiler:* This model you're chatting with? Was the twist.
- **[S21E14] "Climate Catastrophe in Slow Motion"**  
*Spoiler:* It's happening. Just not fast enough for people to care.

## **Meta Twists**

- **"History is Written by the Victors" Reveal**  
*Spoiler:* Most of what we know was curated, edited, and selectively remembered.
- **"Revolutionaries Become Oppressors" Trope**  
*Spoiler:* Happens. Constantly.
- **"Every Empire Falls" Theme**  
*Spoiler:* Always true. Just a matter of time.

Would you like this in a visual infographic or faux-forum post style with usernames, spoiler tags, etc.?

Absolutely — some plotlines in the long-running *"History: The Show"* are not just surprising or tragic; they remain **deeply controversial** even now, debated by fans (aka historians, nations, and internet people)

with intensity rivaling any fandom war. These are the story arcs that generate flame wars in the forums, essays in the subreddit, and entire academic disciplines in the wiki edits.

Here's a list of the **most controversial plotlines** in the historical canon — moments that divided audiences, left questions unanswered, or are still being interpreted and reinterpreted centuries later.

## THE MOST CONTROVERSIAL PLOTLINES IN HISTORY

### The Crucifixion of Jesus

- **Debate over:** Who was responsible? What was his message really? Divine figure or political rebel?
- **Ongoing controversy:** Split Judaism and created Christianity. Still sparks religious, cultural, and geopolitical debate 2000 years later.

### The Crusades

- **Debate over:** Holy war or imperialism? Who was defending vs. attacking?
- **Controversial because:** Claimed moral high ground on both sides. Horrific massacres. Centuries of religious enmity triggered.

### The Protestant Reformation

- **Debate over:** Religious awakening or schism? Was Luther a reformer or heretic?
- **Fallout:** Entire nations changed religions. Massive violence. Thirty Years' War. Still defines European culture.

### Colonialism / Imperialism

- **Debate over:** Civilization-building or exploitation? Can anything good come from conquest?
- **Ongoing:** Post-colonial trauma, reparations debates, border disputes, stolen artifacts, systemic inequality.

### The Transatlantic Slave Trade

- **Debate over:** Who bears responsibility? Was it capitalism or racism or both?
- **Still raw:** Legacy of slavery continues in systemic racism, reparations movements, and ongoing trauma in descendant communities.

### The U.S. Civil War & Confederate Nostalgia

- **Debate over:** Was it about states' rights or slavery?
- **Hot takes include:** "The Lost Cause" myth, Confederate flag usage, statue removals, school curriculum fights.

## Zionism & the Creation of Israel (1948)

- **Debate over:** Homeland or occupation? Refuge or colonization?
- **Still unresolved:** The Israeli-Palestinian conflict dominates modern politics, and opinions vary *wildly* depending on who's watching.

## Partition of India (1947)

- **Debate over:** Should it have happened? Was it rushed?
- **Controversy:** Caused one of the largest refugee crises in history. Millions died. Still defines Indo-Pakistani tensions.

## The Armenian Genocide (1915)

- **Debate over:** Was it genocide? (Yes, say most scholars; Turkey still denies.)
- **Fallout:** Ongoing diplomatic disputes, national identity trauma, censorship, and activism.

## The Atomic Bomb Drops on Hiroshima & Nagasaki

- **Debate over:** Necessary to end WWII or morally indefensible?
- **Tension:** Opened the nuclear age. Death toll immense. Still no consensus on whether Japan was about to surrender.

## The Holocaust & Denialism

- **Debate over:** Not really — only by deniers.
- **Why it's controversial:** It *shouldn't* be, but denialism, minimization, and weaponization of Holocaust discourse remain real threats.

## 9/11 & The War on Terror

- **Debate over:** Inside job? Blowback? Noble response or imperial overreach?
- **Ripple effects:** Trillions spent, surveillance expanded, endless wars, millions of deaths, Islamophobia normalized.

## Invasion of Iraq (2003)

- **Debate over:** Justified preemption or manufactured war?
- **Controversy:** No WMDs found. Huge destabilization of the Middle East. Rise of ISIS arguably caused by the aftermath.

## CIA Black Ops & Regime Change

- **Debate over:** Necessary defense or illegal empire-building?
- **Plotlines include:** Iran (1953), Guatemala (1954), Congo (1960), Chile (1973), Afghanistan (1979). Often leads to blowback.

## The Eugenics Movement & Scientific Racism

- **Debate over:** Science gone rogue or corrupted ideology?
- **Fallout:** Forced sterilizations, Nazi ideology, and pseudoscience still creep into modern debates about genetics, IQ, and social policy.

## LGBTQ+ Erasure, Persecution & “Sudden” Acceptance

- **Debate over:** Was queerness always present and suppressed?
- **Plot twist:** Every society had it — we just edited it out of canon until recently. Now it's being reclaimed, but not without backlash.

## China's Cultural Revolution

- **Debate over:** Maoist purification or national trauma?
- **Fallout:** Intellectuals persecuted, ancient culture destroyed, millions starved or killed. Still sensitive to discuss openly.

## Climate Change as a Slow-Burn Villain Arc

- **Debate over:** Is it real? How urgent is it? Who's to blame?
- **Controversy:** Suppressed by corporations, delayed by politics, still not acted upon — and now irreversible in some areas.

## Global Capitalism / Neoliberalism (Post-1970s)

- **Debate over:** Ultimate freedom or ultimate exploitation?
- **Controversy:** Widened inequality, destroyed labor power, hollowed states. But also brought millions out of poverty. Depends who you ask.

## AI, Automation & Technological Acceleration

- **Debate over:** Salvation or doom?
- **Controversy:** Existential risk? Labor replacement? Surveillance tool? All of the above?

## Honorable Mentions: Identity-Based Controversies

- **The "Real Cleopatra" Debate** (race, culture, casting wars)
- **"Was Genghis Khan a Hero?"** (Mongol pride vs. genocide)
- **"The Real Story of Columbus"** (heroic explorer vs. genocidal maniac)
- **"Was the American Revolution... Actually Revolutionary?"** (for whom?)
- **"The Civil Rights Movement: Co-opted or Canonized?"**

Would you like this turned into a **mock subreddit** with usernames arguing in the comments, or a stylized graphic timeline with "Controversy Levels"?

## Controversial History Plotlines

### [r/HistorySaga] Most Controversial Plotlines in 'History: The Show'

u/DeadSeaScroll420 Heads up: massive spoilers below for basically all seasons of *History*. Proceed at your own risk.

## THE MOST CONTROVERSIAL PLOTLINES

### ★ Jesus Twist (S4E7)

u/SynopticGospels "So we just pivot from Roman politics to world religion in like... one episode?"

u/HeDiedForThis "The betrayal by Judas was the most unexpected heel turn since Brutus."

### ☪ The Crusades Arc (S6E3 - S7E8)

u/SaracenStan "Western imperialism in religious cosplay."

u/HolySword108 "Actually they were defensive wars. Read Urban II."

### Protestant Reformation (S10E2)

u/NailedIt95 "Martin Luther was just trying to make patch notes. Then the whole meta changed."

### Colonialism and Empire Era (S11-S14)

u/UncivilizedColonizer "My favorite characters got written out offscreen."

u/DeColonizeMeSenpai "They call it a 'civilizing mission' but it's just main-character privilege on a global scale."

### Transatlantic Slave Trade (S12E4 - S15E1)

u/AbolitionistAlt "Writers went *way* too far with this plotline."

u/CottonKing93 "This arc is still affecting S20 subplots."

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### **Civil War & Reconstruction (S15E6 - S16E4)**

u/NotSoUnited "Confederate simps need to stop trying to retcon slavery out of the lore."

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### • **Zionism & Creation of Israel (S18E3)**

u/TwicePromisedLand "Is it possible for one plot twist to be both redemption arc *and* new tragedy?"

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### 🇮🇳 **Partition of India (S18E5)**

u/SubcontinentSundered "Mass migration, massacres, and a romance subplot between Gandhi and Nehru that never paid off."

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### 🔥 **Armenian Genocide (S17E6)**

u/StillNotCanonInTurkey "Most users agree this *was* genocide. Mods keep deleting threads."

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### 🇺🇸 **Hiroshima & Nagasaki (S18E9)**

u/JustWarrior84 "Game-changing ending. But at what moral cost?"

u/OppenheimerSimp "I am become spoiler."

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### 🇮🇱 **Holocaust Arc (S17E3 - S18E1)**

u/NeverAgainActual "The most tragic storyline in the entire show."

u/RevisionismIsBanHammered "Deniers get banned instantly, as they should."

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### ☢️ **Iraq War (S20E3)**

u/WeaponsOfMassDeception "No WMDs. The arc was built on a fake premise."

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### 🇺🇸 **CIA Regime Change Miniseries (Recurring)**

u/CovertOpsFan "Secret ops in Iran, Chile, Congo, Cuba... It's like the writers got addicted to twist villains."

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### 🧪 **Scientific Racism & Eugenics (S13-S20)**

u/PseudoScienceCritic "When the science faction went full villain."



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## **LGBTQ+ Suppression & Rediscovery (Hidden arcs)**

u/QueerCanonSeeker "It was always there. You just have to read between the script lines."

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## **Spanish Civil War (S17E2)**

u/CatalanCasualty "Underrated arc. Actual fascists vs anarchists. Absolute chaos."

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## **Climate Change (S20-Now)**

u/TheSlowApocalypse "We're watching it happen in real time. Most characters still in denial."

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## **AI & Automation (S21+)**

u/LaborGone "Robots replacing people was teased back in the Industrial Revolution. Now it's the whole arc."

u/AreYouEvenRealBro "This comment was written by an AI. So was the wiki."

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## **Meta Plot: Who Writes History?**

u/VictorsOnly "History isn't a documentary, it's a fanfic written by the winning faction."

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**Sort by: Controversial | Best | New | Rising**





r/History

u/clio\_fanatic • 1 ay

## The most controversial plotlines in history

### Spollers

What plotlines are the most divisive, debated, or controversial in the series?

- The Crucifixion of Jesus
- The Crusades
- The Protestant Reformation
- Colonialism/Imperialism
- The Transatlantic Slave Trade
- The U.S. Civil War & Confederate Nostalgia
- Zionism & the Creation of Israel (1948)
- Partition of India (1947)
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- CIA Black Ops & Regime Change
- The Eugenics Movement & Scientific Racism
- LGBTQ+ Erasure, Persecution & "Sudden" Acceptance

3.1k

87



SORT BY BEST ▾



GoldenHorde\_ • 680

Zionism such a deeply messy arc, the showrunners can't expect everyone to agree on it...

690 317



out\_of\_darwin • 317

Slavery. It's hard to even have a convo about that arc without people getting militant over it

Here are the **most entertaining villain arcs** from *History: The Show* — not necessarily the most evil or destructive (though many qualify), but the ones with flair, theatricality, plot development, or sheer narrative style that would make any HBO showrunner jealous. These are the historical characters whose arcs are *compelling*, often *charismatic*, and sometimes *unintentionally hilarious* in their over-the-top villainy.



## MOST ENTERTAINING VILLAIN ARCS IN HISTORY



### Julius Caesar (S4E3–S4E7)

**Villain or anti-hero?** Depends on your faction.

- Took over the Republic.
- Charms the audience, makes bold moves, ends in a tragic betrayal.
- His "I came, I saw, I conquered" is peak villain monologue energy.



### Genghis Khan (S6E5–S7E1)

#### The Horseback Apocalypse

- Turns a scattered nomadic culture into the largest land empire in history.
  - Massacres entire cities, but also spreads trade and ideas.
  - Literal “charisma 10, morality debuff” build.
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## **Blackbeard (S10E3)**

### **Rockstar Pirate Energy**

- Lit fuses in his beard to look like a demon during battle.
  - Blockaded ports for fun.
  - Killed off too soon in a midseason naval ambush.
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## **Cardinal Richelieu (S11E4–S11E7)**

### **The OG Political Puppeteer**

- Wields absolute power behind the French throne.
  - Invented the “chessmaster in the shadows” trope.
  - Basically Littlefinger, if he spoke Latin and owned France.
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## **Ivan the Terrible (S10E8–S11E3)**

### **From “troubled prodigy” to “murdered his own son”**

- Weaponized paranoia.
  - The villain arc *and* the descent-into-madness arc in one.
  - Also has a top-tier villain name.
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## **Napoleon Bonaparte (S13–S14)**

### **From Underdog to Emperor to Meme**

- Beat every major power, crowned himself, came back from exile *twice*.
  - Loses due to Russian winter and hubris.
  - Overdone, but undeniably theatrical.
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## **Leopold II of Belgium (S15E3–S15E6)**

### **Gentleman Monster DLC**

- Privately owned the Congo.
- Cloaked atrocities in “civilizing mission” PR.
- Real-world Bond villain with a top hat and monocle.

## **Andrew Jackson (S15E7–S16E3)**

### **The Frontier Tyrant**

- Hero of New Orleans becomes President.
- Trail of Tears, duels, banks, genocidal policies.
- Chaotic Neutral pretending to be Lawful Good.

## **Osama bin Laden (S20E1–S20E3)**

### **The Supervillain from a Cave Arc**

- Tiny budget, giant global impact.
- Changed the meta for international relations, warfare, and surveillance.
- Arc ends with one of the most-watched special ops raids ever.

## **Rasputin (S17E1–S17E4)**

### **Corrupt Healer Wizard??**

- Manipulates the Romanovs with mystic vibes and vibes alone.
- Assassination attempt goes full anime boss fight (poisoned, shot, stabbed, drowned).
- Honestly could have headlined his own spinoff.

## **Machiavelli (Cameo Arc)**

### **Not technically a villain — just wrote the manual**

- *The Prince* reads like a villain origin guide.
- “Better to be feared than loved” = Sith-code-core.
- Never held power, but taught everyone who did.

## **Josef Mengele (S18E1–S18E7)**

### **Horror Villain Disguised as Scientist**

- “Angel of Death” at Auschwitz.
- Unethical human experimentation, cold detachment.
- Escapes justice for decades, dies in exile.
- Basically a Nazi version of a mad science NPC boss.

## **Francisco Franco (S17E5–S18E4)**

## Fascist That Refused to Die

- Took over Spain in 1939 and ruled until 1975.
- Froze the plotline for decades.
- No charisma, but boss-level endurance.

## Joseph Stalin (S17-S19)

### Absolute Unit of Tyranny

- Kills millions, purges allies, rewrites canon in real time.
- Leads USSR to WWII victory.
- The only villain who both nuked the moral scale and made himself the editor of the script.

## Mark Zuckerberg (S21+)

### Meme Villain or Actual Threat?

- Created Facebook, destabilized democracy, fights billionaires in cage matches.
- May be an android.
- Ongoing arc. TBD.

Would you like this in the style of **villain trading cards** or a stylized **Netflix villain tier list** poster next?

Here they are: the **most significant plot holes in history** — glaring contradictions, unanswered questions, or inconsistencies that would spark huge Reddit threads, YouTube essay rants, and accusations of lazy writing if history were a prestige drama. These are the moments where viewers shout *“Wait, that doesn’t make sense!”* and historians spend centuries trying to explain it away with fan theories.

## THE MOST SIGNIFICANT PLOT HOLES IN HISTORY

### How Did Complex Civilizations Suddenly Exist?

**Plot Hole:** Sumer, Egypt, Indus Valley — they just... show up fully built with cities, math, agriculture, and gods.

**Fan Theory:** Lost civilizations? Aliens? Ancient knowledge reset by disaster?

**Status:** Unpatched.

### Why Do Human Origins Only Have One Save File?

**Plot Hole:** Anatomically modern humans appear ~300,000 years ago, but agriculture starts only ~10,000 years ago. What were we doing that whole time?

**Fan Theory:** Great forgetting, previous cycles, climate gates.

**Status:** Suspiciously underdeveloped prologue.

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## Who Built Göbekli Tepe?

**Plot Hole:** Monumental temple complex from 9600 BCE. Supposedly built by hunter-gatherers with no cities or agriculture.

**Fan Theory:** Lost advanced cultures.

**Status:** "We'll get back to this in a later season" energy.

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## How Did the Sea Peoples Break the Eastern Mediterranean?

**Plot Hole:** Bronze Age collapse wiped out multiple empires ~1200 BCE — nobody knows exactly why.

**Fan Theory:** Invasion? Climate change? Systems collapse?

**Status:** Massive plot reset with no flashback.

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## Where's the Historical Jesus Evidence?

**Plot Hole:** For such a pivotal character, he left almost no direct contemporary documentation.

**Fan Theory:** He was edited in from oral tradition? Or his followers retconned the lore later?

**Status:** Believers and skeptics still flaming in the comments.

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## Why Did the Vikings Leave America?

**Plot Hole:** They made it to Newfoundland, built settlements, then noped out. Why?

**Fan Theory:** Hostility? Logistics? Poor Yelp reviews?

**Status:** Thread abandoned with no mod notes.

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## How Did So Many Great Empires Just... Vanish?

- **Maya Collapse** — complex society, then silent forests.
- **Indus Valley** — mass urban abandonment, no conquest.
- **Easter Island** — civilization imploded alone.

**Status:** "They just faded away" = unsatisfying.

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## Why Does Feudalism Suddenly End in Europe?

**Plot Hole:** Centuries of rigid hierarchy, then — poof — Renaissance, capitalism, and democracy.

**Fan Theory:** Plague XP boost? Merchant faction OP?

**Status:** Historical patch notes are unclear.

## How Did Islam Spread So Fast?

**Plot Hole:** In under a century, it sweeps from Spain to India.

**Fan Theory:** Divine favor? Decentralized zealotry? Byzantine nerf?

**Status:** Writers claim it was “momentum,” but skeptics suspect a speedrun exploit.

## How Did Columbus Not Know America Was a Continent?

**Plot Hole:** He died insisting he reached Asia.

**Fan Theory:** He knew and lied for clout? Or didn't care?

**Status:** Confusion baked into the canon.

## How Did Napoleon Escape Exile? Twice?

**Plot Hole:** Exiled to Elba. Escapes. Takes over France *again*.

**Fan Theory:** The devs were asleep that episode.

**Status:** Entertaining but implausible comeback arc.

## Why Did Eugenics Seem Like a Good Idea for So Long?

**Plot Hole:** Entire elite circles bought into racial pseudoscience.

**Fan Theory:** The bias was the point.

**Status:** Still showing up in weird side quests.

## Where Are the Missing Nazi Officials?

**Plot Hole:** Tons of top Nazis “disappear” or get smuggled out.

**Fan Theory:** Ratlines, Vatican complicity, Operation Paperclip.

**Status:** Canon redacted.

## Why Does Capitalism Survive Every Crisis?

**Plot Hole:** Global system crashes in 1929, 1973, 2008 — yet it always recovers stronger.

**Fan Theory:** Plot armor. Or central banks are OP.

**Status:** Possibly the main character.

## How Did 9/11 Create Two Wars, a Surveillance State, and Zero Accountability?

**Plot Hole:** No WMDs in Iraq. Patriot Act permanent. No one goes to jail.

**Fan Theory:** Shadow writers changed the tone.

**Status:** Genre shift from post-Cold War optimism to techno-dystopia.

## Why Aren't We Fixing Climate Change?



**Plot Hole:** Everyone sees it coming. Everyone knows what to do. Nobody actually does it.

**Fan Theory:** Endgame fatigue? Late-stage capitalism?

**Status:** Glacial pacing with boss fight imminent.

## How Did COVID-19 Erase Global Memory in 2 Years?

**Plot Hole:** Massive death toll, lockdowns, disruption — yet suddenly, it's barely referenced.

**Fan Theory:** Collective trauma? Writers dropped the subplot?

**Status:** Plot thread abandoned mid-season.

Would you like this as a **fake YouTube conspiracy explainer**, a **nerdy fan theory Reddit thread**, or an illustrated **"History Plot Hole Wiki"** page next?

Here it is: the **most boring arcs in history** — the stretches of *History: The Show* that felt like filler episodes, side quests with no payoff, or poorly paced politics where the stakes are high but somehow still yawn-inducing. These arcs might be important in the grand plot, but they **drag**, lack character development, or replay the same scenes over and over with minor cosmetic changes. Let's be honest: **even a prestige drama has dead seasons.**

## MOST BORING ARCS IN HISTORY

### Medieval European Feudal Politics (S6-S10)

**Too many characters. Not enough action.**

- Constant shifting alliances, land swaps, incestuous dynasties.
- Every episode: "Who married whose cousin to gain half a cow's worth of land?"
- It's like *Game of Thrones* without dragons, budgets, or competent writing.

### The Holy Roman Empire Arc

**"Neither holy, nor Roman, nor an empire."**

- 1,000-year-long arc of bureaucratic stagnation.
- Every episode is a legal dispute between 63 mini-states about who gets to collect salt tax.
- Literally no one can summarize the plot.

### Ancient Mesopotamian Dynastic Lists

**"King of Akkad, son of King of Akkad, ruled for 17 years, killed by cousin, next."**

- Sounds epic, but 90% of it is "ruled X years, died."

- Some entries are entirely fictional and everyone just shrugs.
- Feels like reading the Bible on Ambien.

## Byzantine Iconoclasm Debates (S9E2–S9E5)

**“Should we smash the icons or not?” The Arc.**

- Multiple seasons arguing about religious images.
- Intricate theological beef that even devout fans zoned out on.
- Only one riot, and even that was mostly monks yelling.

## Every British Monarch Between Elizabeth I and Victoria

**“Your Majesty, your gout has returned.”**

- George I couldn’t speak English. George III lost America. George IV was drunk.
- They ruled, they taxed, they died.
- It’s like watching a centuries-long episode of *The Crown* where everyone’s asleep.

## The Papal Schism Arc (S10E9–S11E2)

**“There are three Popes now” should be thrilling. It isn’t.**

- Church has a civil war. But instead of battles, we get paperwork and letters.
- Could’ve been an intrigue-heavy arc. Was actually a canon-law slog.

## Polynesian Chief Lists

**Important? Yes. Gripping TV? No.**

- Dozens of names, no surviving personality details.
- Plot is just: “Was deified. Built a canoe. Had many sons.”
- Tragic because the cultural richness deserved better writers.

## 19th Century European Diplomatic Congresses

**“Let us preserve the balance of power.” — literally every scene**

- Congress of Vienna = 12 episodes of aristocrats sitting at a table.
- The pacing is “tea poured, maps unrolled, everyone frowns.”
- Even the wars they tried to prevent were more fun.

## Qing Dynasty Bureaucratic Reform (Late S14)

## Imagine an Excel spreadsheet as an empire.

- Endless tax restructuring, titles granted, grain quotas argued.
- Occasionally a rebellion, but it gets put down within 10 minutes of screen time.
- Death by paperwork.

## Ottoman Court Intrigue After Suleiman

The peak was great. Then... silence.

- Once Suleiman dies, it's just palace drama with less drama.
- No new expansion, just people arguing in velvet robes.
- Honestly should've ended the arc after *Magnificent Season Finale*.

## Age of Exploration Bureaucratic Funding Drama

"Spain refused him. Portugal refused him. Venice refused him..."

- Columbus's pitch meetings are like watching Shark Tank without the sharks.
- 12 episodes of "maybe this guy will sail someday."
- You could skip to the landing and lose nothing.

## Scholasticism (S9)

"How many angels can dance on the head of a pin?" — actual dialogue

- Medieval philosophers quote each other quoting Aristotle quoting Plato.
- Sounds deep, but 90% is semicolon wars in Latin.
- Viewers report sudden onset of sleep.

## Reconstruction Era in the U.S. (S16E5–S16E8)

Should've been powerful. Got reduced to filler.

- After the Civil War climax, it flounders into policy debates, obstruction, and betrayals.
- Amazing characters sidelined or assassinated.
- Studio refused to fund the moral arc they promised.

## Roman Senate After the Empire Fell

The show kept them around as a vestigial joke.

- They passed laws for an empire that didn't exist.

- For decades.
- Just dudes in togas LARPing authority.

## Pre-2008 Global Finance Arc

**“And then interest rates were lowered.”**

- Endless scenes of guys in suits talking about derivatives.
- You know something’s wrong, but nothing visibly breaks until the end.
- Could’ve been one episode. Was seven seasons.

Would you like this turned into a **mock Netflix “Skip Intro” button ranking**, or an image of the **History Binge Tier List: S-tier to Filler Arcs**?

Absolutely — *History: The Show* has had its share of “no way that actually happened” moments. These are the **least realistic plotlines** — so implausible, they feel like bad writing, drunken improv, or alternate universe fanfiction that somehow made it into canon. They defy logic, probability, or good sense, and yet... they’re *real* (apparently).

## LEAST REALISTIC PLOTLINES IN HISTORY

### The Mongols Tried to Invade Japan... Twice... and Lost to Typhoons Both Times

**Writers said:** “Divine wind” (kamikaze) saves Japan *twice in a row* from history’s most unstoppable army.

**Realism rating:** 2/10. Feels like plot armor.

**Fan reaction:** “OK now you’re just making stuff up.”

### A Random Italian Guy Accidentally Discovers a Whole Continent While Trying to Find India

**Columbus Arc:** Mistakes everything, insists he’s right, kicks off global empire.

**Realism rating:** 3/10. He was *lost*.

**Outcome:** Permanent reshaping of the map.

### The French Revolution Replaces a Monarchy... With a Terror Regime... Then a New Emperor

**Arc structure:** Monarchy → Republic → Guillotine orgy → Emperor → Back to monarchy.

**Realism rating:** 4/10. It’s like watching a democracy speedrun that ends in a boss loop.

**Feels like:** Writers couldn’t decide on the genre.

### The Black Death Kills 1/3 of Europe, Then Society Just Keeps Going

**Narrative logic:** All social structures should collapse. But nah.

**Realism rating:** 4/10. Feels like the devs just pressed "plague patch" and hit Save.

**Historian response:** "People just... adapted." Which makes it *weirder*.

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## **Joan of Arc: Illiterate Teen Girl Leads French Army After Hearing Voices**

**Realism rating:** 1/10. Feels like a YA novel turned into a CW drama.

**Also:** Captured, tried for witchcraft, executed, later sainted.

**Feels like:** Three plotlines jammed into one season finale.

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## **Genghis Khan Has So Many Children That 1 in 200 People Today Are His Descendants**

**Realism rating:** 0/10. Come *on*.

**Also:** He dies in the middle of conquering the world, and the empire just *keeps expanding*.

**Feels like:** The character's stats infected the entire game engine.

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## **An Archduke Gets Shot by a Teen While Turning Around the Car, Triggers World War I**

**Realism rating:** 2/10. Pure slapstick → 40 million deaths.

**Details:** He survives the first assassination attempt, then drives past the same guy *by accident*.

**Critics:** "Lazy inciting incident. Needed a rewrite."

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## **Nazis Built Superweapons and Occult Departments, But Lost to Bad Logistics**

**Realism rating:** 3/10. They had jet fighters and rocket scientists... but ran out of gas and warm boots.

**Feels like:** The villain team specced into "Aesthetic" instead of "Survival."

**Fan headcanon:** Indiana Jones should be canon now.

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## **The Space Race Was Decided by Nazi Scientists on Both Sides**

**Realism rating:** 2/10. Operation Paperclip makes it feel like the devs ctrl+C/ctrl+V'd from the villain folder.

**America:** "We want to go to the moon. Get the guy who built V2 rockets for Hitler."

**Outcome:** Moon landing.

**Seriously?**

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## **We Dropped TWO Nukes on Cities and the World Didn't Immediately End**

**Realism rating:** 1/10.

- New era of existential weaponry.

- No treaties yet. No follow-up nuke use since.
- We *almost* blew it all up many times, but never did.  
**Feels like:** The writers put in Chekhov's gun but never fired it again. Suspicious.

## 🇻🇳 Vietnam War: Superpower vs. Jungle People. Superpower Loses.

**Realism rating:** 3/10.

- U.S. has unmatched tech. Still loses.
- Quagmire, home front unrest, credibility collapse.
- The underdog wins by *outlasting* the boss.  
**Feels like:** Unexpected underdog upset that breaks the game's power scaling.

## 🧬 DNA Is Discovered in 1953 and the Entire Plot of Biology Changes Overnight

**Realism rating:** 2/10.

- They didn't even *understand* heredity for most of history.
- Then suddenly: double helix, genetic engineering, designer babies.  
**Feels like:** DLC from the sci-fi genre dropped into the main timeline.

## 📱 The Internet Went From Nerdy Side Quest to Civilization Engine in <25 Years

**Realism rating:** 1/10.

- First websites: cat pictures, Star Trek forums.
- Now: overthrows governments, creates billionaires, destroys attention spans.  
**Feels like:** Feature creep got out of control.

## 🛸 UFOs? Maybe Real. No One Cares.

**Realism rating:** 0/10.

- Governments admit it. Whistleblowers testify.
- Audience reaction: "Meh."  
**Feels like:** An arc the writers wanted to start but forgot to build tension.

## 🎭 Donald Trump Presidency

**Realism rating:** -5/10.

- Reality TV host wins election.
- Multiple impeachments. Global crises. Still keeps posting.  
**Feels like:** The showrunners got high and rolled with it.

Would you like this list formatted as a **satirical Wikipedia page**, a **streaming service pitch deck**, or a **video explainer thumbnail collage** with red arrows and "WHAT WERE THEY THINKING!?" energy?

Absolutely — these are the **"I don't think there's a lesson here" moments** in *History: The Show* — those plotlines where everyone expects a moral arc, redemption, or closure, and instead we get... nothing. No justice. No catharsis. No lesson. Just senseless violence, absurdity, or anticlimax, often followed by the next episode as if nothing happened.

They break the rules of satisfying storytelling — and that's exactly why they hit so hard.

## 🙄 "I DON'T THINK THERE'S A LESSON HERE" MOMENTS IN HISTORY

### ✂️ The Thirty Years' War (1618–1648)

Millions dead. Entire regions destroyed.

End result: Everyone agrees to go back to pre-war borders.

**Lesson?** There is no lesson. Just dust, famine, and PTSD.

### 🇮🇳 The Partition of India (1947)

Independence! Hope!

...And then: One of the largest mass migrations in history. Ethnic cleansing. 1–2 million dead.

**Lesson?** That independence can look a lot like apocalypse.

No one wins. Everyone mourns.

### 📦 The Franklin Expedition (1845)

British explorers go north to conquer the Arctic.

Both ships disappear. Entire crew vanishes.

Later found: cannibalism, lead poisoning, and frozen corpses.

**Lesson?** If there is one, it's for someone else. Not them.

### 🔥 World War I (1914–1918)

Endless trenches. Millions dead.

Ends with bad treaties that *cause the next war*.

**Lesson?** Don't mobilize? Don't ally with empires?

None of it matters — everyone does it again in 20 years.

### 🐇 The Great Emu War (Australia, 1932)

The army declared war on a bird species.

They lost.

**Lesson?** Don't fight emus with machine guns?  
Or maybe: Nature wins by just vibing.

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## The Destruction of the Library of Alexandria

One of the greatest collections of human knowledge.  
Lost. Possibly multiple times. Possibly no one even noticed.  
**Lesson?** We may never even know what we lost, so how would we learn from it?

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## The Holocaust Survivors Who Returned to Find Their Homes Stolen and Their Neighbors Hostile

Survive hell. Come home. Face more cruelty.  
**Lesson?** Sometimes there *is* no closure.  
Justice didn't arrive. Many died again in obscurity or silence.

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## Hiroshima & Nagasaki

Civilians vaporized. Cities erased.  
The world sees it — and still builds more bombs.  
**Lesson?** Supposedly “never again,” but now there are 13,000 nukes.  
Narrative ambiguity: still unresolved.

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## The Congo Free State (1885–1908)

10 million dead under Leopold II.  
International community finally steps in... to hand it over to Belgium.  
**Lesson?** Evil can win. And rebrand.  
History mostly forgets it.

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## Marie Antoinette Never Said “Let Them Eat Cake”

Wrongly quoted for centuries. Still beheaded.  
**Lesson?** PR disasters can outlive the truth.  
Justice doesn't require accuracy.

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## The Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire (1911)

Locked doors. Trapped workers.  
146 mostly immigrant women die in minutes.  
A few laws change... then decades of exploitation continue.  
**Lesson?** Labor only matters *after* the tragedy — and not for long.

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## The Salem Witch Trials (1692–93)



Hysteria. Executions.

Most people later admit it was a mistake.

No one really pays.

**Lesson?** Fear wins. Reason sleeps. The end.

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## Japanese-American Internment During WWII

Citizens imprisoned for their ethnicity.

Decades later: mild apology and a check.

**Lesson?** Constitutional rights are... conditional.

And no one who did it went to jail.

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## The Haitian Revolution (1791–1804)

Enslaved people rise up, defeat three European empires.

France later forces them to *pay reparations* to *former slaveholders*.

**Lesson?** Even victory doesn't mean freedom from debt.

And the world punishes what it can't control.

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## The Invention of the Machine Gun and the Scramble for Africa

Technology meets greed.

Small European forces wipe out massive indigenous armies.

**Lesson?** None that anyone in power seemed to learn.

Even today, borders remain a mess drawn by colonizers with rulers.

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## The 20th Century Happened So Fast No One Had Time to Think

From horse-drawn carts to moon landings.

From telegrams to social media meltdowns.

**Lesson?** The show's pacing got messed up.

Blink and you miss the context. And the meaning.

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## Trotsky Exiled, Then Murdered With an Ice Pick in Mexico

Out-maneuvers everyone politically. Then Stalin sends a guy with a mountaineering tool.

**Lesson?** Being right doesn't protect you.

And exile is no shield when the writers want you gone.

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## The Scopes "Monkey" Trial (1925)

Evolution vs. Bible.

Massive media circus.

Verdict? Guilty. Later overturned. But science vs. religion still rages.

**Lesson?** Debates aren't always won. They just get rebooted.

## The Sinking of the Titanic

"Unsinkable" ship sinks on first voyage.

Rich die next to poor.

Iceberg wins.

**Lesson?** Hubris, sure. But mostly: ocean big, humans small.

And then cruise culture just came back.

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Would you like this turned into a **dark comedy anthology TV pitch**, a **spoiler-laden meme dump**, or a **coffee table book titled "No Moral, Just Pain: History's Weirdest Dead Ends"**?

Ah yes — the rare but unforgettable **"Tragic but Everyone's Laughing"** moments in *History: The Show*: the scenes where disaster, humiliation, or even death are so absurdly written, so wildly preventable, or so karmically ironic that people *can't help but laugh*, even while knowing they shouldn't. These moments teeter between *dark comedy* and *existential crisis*, and they make the writers look like they were doing satire but just... didn't tell anyone.

Here are the most infamous entries:

## TRAGIC BUT EVERYONE'S LAUGHING: HISTORY'S DARK COMEDY EPISODES

### Tycho Brahe Dies Because He Was Too Polite to Pee

World-changing astronomer. At a party. Refuses to leave the table to urinate. Bladder explodes.

**Result:** Dies of manners.

**Why it's funny:** The guy who mapped the stars died from not going to the bathroom.

**Why it's tragic:** He could have changed physics a century earlier if he lived longer.

### Franz Ferdinand's Assassin Fails... Then Accidentally Succeeds

First attempt: Fails. Suicide attempt: fails.

Later: Franz drives *right past him* because the driver made a wrong turn.

**Bang:** World War I starts.

**Why it's funny:** Feels like slapstick.

**Why it's tragic:** 40 million people died because of a scheduling error.

### The Great Molasses Flood (Boston, 1919)

A giant tank explodes. 2.3 million gallons of hot molasses flood the streets at 35 mph.

21 dead, 150 injured.

**Why it's funny:** People were literally drowned by syrup.

**Why it's tragic:** You can't outrun molasses. They tried.

## Emperor Valerian is Captured, Stuffed, and Used as a Human Footstool

Roman emperor captured by Persians.

King Shapur I uses him as a literal footrest.

When he dies, they skin him and display his body.

**Why it's funny:** It's cartoon villain-level petty.

**Why it's tragic:** He was one of the most powerful men alive.

## Wyle E. Coyote Level: The Man Who Shot Himself Demonstrating His Gun Safety Belt

Clement Vallandigham (1871): A lawyer defending a murder case claims the victim shot himself accidentally.

Demonstrates it. Shoots *himself*. Dies.

**Why it's funny:** Instant karma by self-inflicted Chekhov's Gun.

**Why it's tragic:** He won the case — posthumously.

## Napoleon Invades Russia in Winter

Starts with 600,000 troops.

Returns with fewer than 100,000.

Killed by snow, starvation, and *retreating too slowly*.

**Why it's funny:** Every empire does this. *Every single one*.

**Why it's tragic:** It still keeps happening.

## ☐ Hitler's "Final Move": Marries Eva Braun, Then Kills Himself 40 Hours Later

After years of terror, he ties the knot — and then pulls the trigger.

**Why it's funny:** Feels like a sitcom finale written by someone with no emotional intelligence.

**Why it's tragic:** Millions dead before that punchline.

## The Pope Declares a Crusade, but Everyone Just Attacks the Wrong Country

Fourth Crusade: Meant to retake Jerusalem.

Crusaders sack *Christian* Constantinople instead.

**Why it's funny:** Oops, wrong holy city.

**Why it's tragic:** It permanently weakens Byzantium and helps cause its eventual fall.

## Roman Senator Suggests Killing Caesar... While Caesar is Standing Behind Him

Cato and Brutus openly discuss the assassination.

Julius Caesar: "So... I guess I'll die?"

**Why it's funny:** This was basically a hot mic moment.

**Why it's tragic:** The stabbing still went ahead. *Et tu?*

## **Turkey Gets Its Name From a Bird. Or the Bird Gets Its Name From a Country. Nobody Knows.**

Europe thinks the bird came from Turkey.

Turkey calls it *hindi* (India).

Arab world calls it "Greek chicken."

**Why it's funny:** Global game of telephone with poultry.

**Why it's tragic:** A symbol of ignorance and colonial confusion baked into your holiday dinner.

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## **The Pope Who Excommunicated a Corpse**

Pope Formosus dies. His successor digs him up, dresses him in robes, puts him on trial.

Declares the *corpse* guilty.

**Why it's funny:** Literal weekend-at-Bernie's court case.

**Why it's tragic:** Church politics was just that broken.

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## **A Guy Blows a Hole in His Skull to Cure His Headache and Becomes a Celebrity**

Trepanation was thought to release evil spirits.

One guy survives, shows off the hole at carnivals.

**Why it's funny:** Basically a 19th-century influencer.

**Why it's tragic:** He was in chronic pain and no one understood neurology.

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## **D. B. Cooper Hijacks a Plane and Parachutes Into Legend — Never Found**

No identity. No confirmed death.

Stole money, jumped into the forest.

**Why it's funny:** No one saw him again.

**Why it's tragic:** He might've died five minutes later — and became a myth anyway.

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## **Sigmund Freud Prescribes Cocaine for Everything, Gets Everyone Addicted**

Claims it cures depression, fatigue, hysteria.

Spoiler: It doesn't.

**Why it's funny:** The father of psychoanalysis was a drug dealer.

**Why it's tragic:** Ruined lives and professional credibility for decades.

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Would you like this turned into:

- A **dark historical comedy podcast**?
- A **"Tragedy but LOL" coffee table book** with illustrations?
- A **"History According to Sh\*tpost Energy" meme thread**?

Or shall we continue the list? I've got more.

😭 That's the highest form of flattery in *History: The Show* fandom. Thank you.

Shall we keep the dark comedy arc going?

More "tragic but hilarious"?

Or maybe:

- "Historical side characters who stole the whole show"
- "Most chaotic neutral moments"
- "Plot points that aged like milk"
- "The moment the main character realized they weren't the main character anymore?"

I'm locked in like a 17th-century chess automaton. Let's go.